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10/777,354

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Thomas Roy Prohofsky

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EXAMINER

LAZARO, DAVID R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2155

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/777,354

Applicant(s)

PROHOFSKY, THOMAS ROY

Examiner

David Lazaro

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/23/2004.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-20 are pending in this office action.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

***Drawings***

3. The drawings filed 08/20/2004 are accepted by the examiner.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-6, 9-12 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 7,089,297 by Salas et al. (Salas).
6. With respect to claim 1, Salas teaches a method, comprising:

initializing a program on a file server, the program being capable of creating an account (Col. 7 line 66 - Col. 8 line 32: domain controller is operating and is capable of creating an account);

requesting the account from a requestor, the requestor being capable of bypassing communication to an administrator (Col. 8 lines 17-32: account creation request from requestor, no administrator involved); and

processing a request for the account wherein the program is capable of processing the request and bypassing an intervening administrator action (Col. 8 lines 17-32: account is created based on request with no administrator action involved).

7. With respect to claim 2, Salas further teaches wherein initializing the program includes activating the program, the program being capable of operating continuously (Col. 7 line 66 - Col. 8 line 32: domain controller is inherently activated and operating continuously).

8. With respect to claim 3, Salas further teaches wherein requesting the account includes transmitting an account identifier to the program (Col. 8 lines 17-32: account creation request includes a username for the account).

9. With respect to claim 4, Salas further teaches wherein processing the request includes executing operations when the program receives an account identifier (Col. 8 lines 17-32: operations are executed to create the account according to the request).

10. With respect to claim 5, Salas further teaches wherein processing the request further includes checking for mode enablement and checking for an account limitation

(Col. 8 lines 17-53 and Col. 4 lines 36-50: account creation includes permissions and domain restrictions)

11. With respect to claim 6, Salas further teaches wherein processing the request further includes resolving an account identifier and manipulating security tokens (Col. 8 lines 17-53: account creation includes username and security permissions).

12. With respect to claim 9, Salas teaches a method for account creation without administrator intervention, comprising:

initializing a program, the program being capable of monitoring a network connection for an account request (Col. 7 line 66 - Col. 8 line 32: domain controller is operating on domain server and is capable of monitoring for a network connection for an account request);

receiving the account request and authenticating an account identifier for a new account (Col. 8 lines 17-32: account creation request from requestor including a username identifier and associated permissions, no administrator involved); and

processing the account request by creating a location in a structure managed by an operating system for maintaining accounts (Col. 8 lines 17-53 and Col. 4 lines 36-50: domain controller processing account request and maintains accounts).

13. With respect to claim 10, Salas teaches a system for creating an account without an administrator action, comprising:

a requestor operating on a client, the client being coupled to a connector, wherein the requestor is capable of requesting the account (Col. 8 lines 17-32 account creation request from requestor, no administrator involved) ; and a

a program capable of continuous operation on a file server (Col. 7 line 66 - Col. 8 line 32: domain controller is operating and is capable of creating an account), the file server being coupled to the connector, wherein the program is capable of monitoring a connection point for a request to create the account (Col. 7 line 66 - Col. 8 line 32: domain controller is capable of monitoring for a network connection for an account request) and subsequently creating the account (Col. 8 lines 17-32: account is created based on request with no administrator action involved).

14. With respect to claim 11, Salas further teaches a database for authenticating an account identifier (Col. 7 lines 66- Col. 8 line 15).

15. With respect to claim 12, Salas further teaches wherein the program is coupled to the database (Col. 7 lines 66- Col. 8 line 15).

16. With respect to claim 15, Salas teaches a network, comprising:

a first computer coupled to a network connector, the first computer being capable of requesting the creation of an account (Col. 8 lines 17-32 account creation request from requestor, no administrator involved); and

a second computer coupled to the network connector, the second computer being capable of creating the account without administrator intervention (Col. 8 lines 17-32: account is created based on request with no administrator action involved).

17. With respect to claim 16, Salas further teaches a network attached storage (NAS) device coupled to the network connector, the NAS device being capable of storing the account (Col. 4 lines 36-50).

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18. With respect to claim 17, Salas further teaches a database coupled to the network connector, the database capable of providing data to authenticate an account identifier (Col. 7 lines 66- Col. 8 line 15).

19. With respect to claim 18, Salas further teaches wherein the network connector is capable of facilitating file sharing (Col. 3 lines 49-58 and Col. 4 lines 11-18).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

20. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

21. Claims 7, 8, 13, 14, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Salas in view of U.S. Patent 5,734,831 by Sanders (Sanders).

22. With respect to claim 7, Salas teaches all the limitations of claim 4 and further teaches the processing the request further includes configuring software settings (Col. 8 lines 17-32).

Salas does not explicitly disclose the processing of the request includes creating a directory. Sanders teaches the processing of an account creation request can included the creation of a directory structure (Col. 10 lines 13-32).

Because both Salas and Sanders teach methods for processing account creation requests, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to substitute one method for the other for the predictable result of processing an account creation request in order to create an account.

23. With respect to claim 8, Salas further teaches creating a directory includes allocating locations on a directory tree structure (In Sanders: Col. 10 lines 1-32)

24. With respect to claim 13, Salas does not explicitly disclose a directory in a directory tree structure.

Sanders teaches the processing of an account creation request can included the creation of a directory in a directory tree structure (Col. 10 lines 13-32).

Because both Salas and Sanders teach methods for processing account creation requests, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute one method for the other for the predictable result of processing an account creation request in order to create an account.

25. With respect to claim 14, Salas further teaches wherein the program initiates at least one process to create the directory (In Sanders: Col. 10 lines 1-32).

26. With respect to claim 19, Salas does not explicitly disclose a directory in a directory structure.

Sanders teaches the processing of an account creation request can included the creation of a directory tree structure (Col. 10 lines 13-32).

Because both Salas and Sanders teach methods for processing account creation requests, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute one method for the other for the predictable result of processing an account creation request in order to create an account.



27. With respect to claim 20, Salas further teaches wherein the directory structure is a tree structure (In Sanders: Col. 10 lines 1-32).

### ***Conclusion***

28. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

29. U.S. Patent 6,687,733 by Manukyan. February 3, 2004. Discloses automatic configuration of services through a server daemon based on an account.

30. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0095571 by Bradee. July 18, 2002. Discloses general automatic creation of a user account - see paragraph [0062].

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Lazaro whose telephone number is 571-272-3986. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



David Lazaro  
September 15, 2007